Operation of Shatabdi/Rajdhani Services

590. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have carried out any cost-benefit analysis so far as operation of Shatabdi and Rajdhani services are concerned;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the earnings from Shatabdi and Rajdhani *vis-a-vis* other passenger and express train services; and

(d) whether Government proposes to improve the mail/express services catering to needs of the general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The train-wise cost analysis is not done on the Railways.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the period from April to December, 1998 the approximate earnings from 14 pairs of Shatabdi trains and 13 pairs of Rajdhani trains is Rs. 382.91 crores *vis-a-vis* Rs. 5508.22 crores from Passenger/Express trains.

(d) Effecting improvement in the quality of service on board the mail/express trains is the constant endeavour of the Railways and is a continuous process.

Traffic survey in Andhra Pradesh

591. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether periodic traffic surveys have been conducted by South Central Railway in Andhra Pradesh on the trends in rail passenger requirements;

(b) whether it is a fact that adequate rail connections are not available between Hyderabad and districts of Cuddapah and Anantapur;

(c) whether any fast day-time trains are proposed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Adequate connections are available.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Introduction of signal and Safety Gadgets

592. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether State-of-the art signal and safety gadgets to reduce rail accidents drastically are going to be introduced in Indian Railways; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The induction of modern technology for improvement of signalling system for enhancing safety of train operation is a constant endeavour.

(b) Track circuiting which prevents the human error by station staff resulting in